

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges



Event Calendar March – May 2019

March



SPRING MIGRATION



MIGRATION PROGRAM - Saturday and Sunday, March 23 & 24, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. at Visitor CenterDiscover the wonders of migration at this family friendly program. Learn about DeSoto's important role in the migration and then head out on the refuge with a ranger to observe migratory birds. Following the program, try your luck at the Migratory Bird Game and see if you survive the migration.

April



TURKEY HUNTS
FISHING OPENS ON LAKE
REFUGE CLEANUP DAY



YOUTH TURKEY HUNT - Saturday & Sunday, April 6-7

The refuge will hold one youth shotgun turkey hunt on April 6th-7th. Interested youth hunters may apply for the hunt by sending in their name, address and telephone number. Applications should be sent to DeSoto Refuge, 1434 316th Lane, Missouri Valley, IA 51555. A random drawing for the limited slots will be done on March 15th.

DESOTO PUBLIC USE AREAS OPEN- Monday, April 15

DeSoto Lake opens for fishing for the season. South gate recreation area and the east auto tour reopens for the season. Visitors can also mushroom hunt in the designated public use areas. Refer to regulation brochure for details.

REFUGE CLEANUP - Saturday, April 27, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Join refuge staff and volunteers in a Refuge-wide cleanup day. Participants will meet at the DeSoto Visitor Center in the morning and will spend the morning volunteering on the refuge with various cleanup projects. A complimentary hot dog lunch will be provided following the morning cleanup. Pre-registration is encouraged by calling 712-388-4800.

May



MIGRATORY BIRDS FISHING CLINICS



MIGRATORY BIRD MONTH CELEBRATION - Saturday, May 4, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Visitor Center

Join DeSoto Refuge staff with a celebration of International Migratory Bird Month. At 9:00 am join a refuge ranger for a wetland and birding hike. Then at 12:30 pm, get your hands dirty by doing a wetland discovery program. Learn why wetlands are so important to migratory birds.

EAGLE NEST PROGRAM- Sunday, May 5, 1:00 p.m. at Visitor Center

Learn about Eagle nests and how eagles raise their young. Following program head out to Bob Starr Wildlife Overlook to look for eaglets in the nest.

FISHING CLINIC- Saturday, May 18, 10:00 a.m. at South Gate Recreation Area

Join us for a fishing clinic on Nebraska Free Fishing Day. Meet at handicap dock at South Gate Area. Fishing poles and bait provided.



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to these events for all participants. Please direct all requests for special accommodation to the Refuge Visitor Center: 712-388-4803, desoto@fws.gov, or TTY 800-877-8339 at least two weeks prior to the event.

Refuge Visitor Center is located off Hwy 30, five miles west of I-29. The Visitor Center is one mile in from the Hwy 30 entrance. An entrance fee is required. The Visitor Center is open daily (7 days/week) and the hours are 8:30am-4:30pm. Closed some federal holidays.